

HOUSE JOURNAL
of the
FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
of the
NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE OF TENNESSEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1992
FIRST LEGISLATIVE DAY

The Speaker invited the members into the Chamber and instructed the Sergeants at Arms to close the doors.

COMMUNICATION

January 10, 1992

The Honorable Jimmy Naifeh
Speaker of the House
Suite 19, Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Speaker Naifeh:

I have enclosed the Proclamation I have issued calling for the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly to convene in extraordinary session at 11:00 a.m. on January 14, 1992. I look forward to working with you as we address these important issues during the extraordinary session.

Sincerely,
/s/ Ned McWherter

READING OF THE PROCLAMATION

The Speaker directed the Clerk to read the proclamation of the Governor convening the General Assembly in Extraordinary Session, which is as follows:

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the general welfare of the citizens of Tennessee depends on an educated citizenry which will enhance Tennessee's economic prosperity and quality of life, and

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WHEREAS, in order to prepare Tennesseans for the economy and society of the Twenty-First Century, Tennessee's children must be educated in Twenty-First Century classrooms and schools; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Tennessee provides in Article XI, Section 12, that:

The State of Tennessee recognizes the inherent value of education and encourages its support. The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance, support and eligibility standards of a system of free public schools. The General Assembly may establish and support such postsecondary educational institutions, including public institutions of higher learning, as it determines.

WHEREAS, the current system of financing public education has been ruled unconstitutional by the Davidson County Chancery Court; and

WHEREAS, the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly, during the first regular session, extensively considered comprehensive education and tax reform proposals; and

WHEREAS, the provision of quality public education is an issue of paramount importance to Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, I have determined that an extraordinary opportunity exists for our state to move forward and to lead the nation in developing an education system for the Twenty-First Century;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ned McWherter, Governor of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article III, Section 9, of the Constitution of the State of Tennessee, do hereby call the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly of the State of Tennessee to meet and convene in extraordinary session at the Capitol in Nashville at eleven o'clock (11:00 a.m.) central standard time on Tuesday, January 14, 1992, for the purpose of:

(1) Considering and acting upon legislation, either independent or amendatory, or resolutions, as the General Assembly may deem necessary, on the following subjects relating to a system of free public schools:

(a) the subjects related to public education addressed by the "Education Improvement Act of 1991", House Bill No. 752/Senate Bill No. 1231 of the first regular session of the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly, as amended and passed by the House and Senate;

(b) a system of finance for education and a funding distribution formula;

(c) the "Goals and Objectives of the Twenty-First Century Challenge Plan" adopted by the Joint Education Oversight

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Committee in February 1990 and incorporated in the State Master Plan adopted by the State Board of Education in November 1990;

(d) the provision of choice among public schools by parents for their children; and

(e) the "America 2000" plan proposed by President George Bush, and the "Tennessee 2000"/Twenty-First Century Challenge plan proposed by Governor Ned McWherter, including site-based management and the development of "break-the-mold schools";

(2) Considering and acting upon legislation, either independent or amendatory, pertaining to taxation; tax reform; funds for elementary, secondary and post-secondary education, and pertaining to the appropriation of funds to implement legislation enacted during this extraordinary session;

(3) Considering and acting upon legislation to submit to the people of Tennessee the question of calling a limited constitutional convention for the purpose of altering, reforming, or abolishing Article II, Sections 28, 29, and 30, all relative to taxation, and Article XI, Section 5, relative to lotteries;

(4) Considering and acting upon legislation to make appropriations sufficient to pay the expenses of the extraordinary session of the General Assembly, including the expenses of carrying out any actions taken pursuant to this call;

(5) Considering and acting upon legislation to the extent the General Assembly deems necessary to authorize the State of Tennessee to sell its interest bearing bonds and bond anticipation notes for post-secondary capital improvement items; and

(6) Considering and acting upon a resolution to invite the Governor to address the Senate and the House of Representatives, meeting in joint convention, on the reasons why an extraordinary session of the General Assembly has been called; and

(7) Considering and acting upon a resolution, as provided in Article II, Section 8, of the Tennessee Constitution, at the General Assembly's discretion, setting a date and time for the convening of the second regular session of the Ninety-Seventh General Assembly.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET
MY HAND AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF
THE STATE OF TENNESSEE TO BE AFFIXED
THIS NINTH DAY OF JANUARY, 1992.

/s/Ned McWherter, Governor

Bryant Millsaps
Secretary of State

The Governor, having issued his proclamation convening the

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Ninety-Seventh General Assembly in Extraordinary Session, the House met at 11:00 a.m. and was called to order by Mr. Speaker Naifeh.

The proceedings were opened with prayer by Rev. Mark Ashley, Salem United Methodist Church, Clarksville, Tennessee.

Rep. Knight led the House in the in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken with the following results:

Present 98

Representatives present were: Allen, Anderson, Armstrong, Arriola, Bell, Bittle, Bivens, Bragg, Buck, Byrd, Callicott, Chiles, Chumney, Clark, Coffey, Cole, Collier, Copeland, Crain, Cross, Curlee, Davidson, Davis (Cocke), Davis (Gibson), Davis (Knox), DeBerry, Dixon, Duer, Ferguson, Fowlkes, Garrett, Givens, Gunnels, Haley, Halteman, Hargrove, Harrill, Hassell, Haun, Head, Herron, Hill, Hillis, Holcomb, Holt, Hubbard, Huskey, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, R. (Shelby), Jones, U. (Shelby), Joyce, Kent, Kernell, King, Kisber, Knight, Liles, Love, McAfee, McDaniel, McKee, Meyer, Moore, Naifeh, Napier, Niceley, Nuber, Odom, Peroulas Draper, Phillips, Pinion, Pruitt, Purcell, Rhinehart, Ridgeway, Rigsby, Rinks, Robinson (Davidson), Robinson (Hamilton), Robinson (Washington), Severance, Shirley, Sipes, Stamps, Tindell, Tullos, Turner (Hamilton), Turner, (Shelby), Venable, Walley, West, Whitson, Williams (Union), Windle, Winningham, Wix, Wood, Mr. Speaker Naifeh -- 98.

EXCUSED

The Speaker announced that the following member(s) has/have been excused, pursuant to request(s) under **Rule No. 20**:

Representative Williams (Shelby); due to family illness.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Speaker announced the resignation of Chief Sergeant at Arms J. "Droopy" Edwards.

The Speaker appointed Robert Mosby as Chief Sergeant at Arms for the remainder of the 97th General Assembly, who signed the oath of office.

ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY RULES

Rep. Purcell moved that the permanent rules of order of the

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regular session of the House of Representatives of the Ninety Seventh General Assembly be made the temporary rules of the Extraordinary Session; the motion, seconded by Rep. Chiles, prevailed.

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Representative Purcell moved that a committee be appointed by the Speaker to notify the Governor that the House of Representatives is ready for the transaction of business, which motion prevailed.

The Speaker appointed the following committee to notify the Governor: Representatives Brenda Turner (Hamilton), Chair; Jackson, Crain, Hargrove, Arriola, Callicott, Cole, Haley and Armstrong.

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Representative Purcell moved that a committee be appointed by the Speaker to notify the Senate that the House of Representatives is ready for the transaction of business, which motion prevailed.

The Speaker appointed the following committee to notify the Senate: Representatives Pruitt, Chair; U. Jones, Holt, Fowlkes, Windle, Hassell, Venable, Halteman and Walley.

RECESS

The Speaker called a brief recess while these committees retired.

RECESS EXPIRED

The recess having expired, the Speaker called the House to order. Rep. Bragg moved that the roll call be dispensed with, which motion prevailed.

SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Speaker Naifeh recognized Representative B. Turner, who reported that the Select Committee to notify the Governor had completed its business. The Committee report was accepted.

SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Speaker Naifeh recognized Rep. Pruitt, who reported that the Select Committee to notify the Senate had completed its business. The Committee report was accepted.

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**MESSAGE FROM SENATE
JANUARY 14, 1992**

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed to notify the House that the Senate has perfected its organization and is ready for the transaction of business.

CLYDE W. McCULLOUGH, JR.
Chief Clerk.

SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Speaker Naifeh recognized Senator Burks as Chairman of the Select Committee to notify the House that Senate is organized and ready for business.

RULES SUSPENDED

Rep. Purcell moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of introducing House Joint Resolution No. 1 out of order, which motion prevailed.

House Joint Resolution No. 1 -- General Assembly, Joint Conventions -- Governor's Address, Tuesday, January 14, 1992. by *Purcell, *Naifeh, *DeBerry.

On motion, the rules were suspended for the immediate consideration of the resolution.

On motion of Rep. Purcell, the resolution was adopted.

SESSION SCHEDULE

Rep. Purcell announced the following proposed session and committee schedule for the Special Session:

Monday	Session*	5:00
	*January 20 and February 17 - NO SESSION	
Tuesday	Session*	9:00
	Education Committee	9:30
	State and Local Government Committee	12:00
	Finance, Ways and Means Committee	1:30
	*January 21 and February 18 - Session, 12:00	
Wednesday	Session	9:00
	Education Committee	9:30
	State and Local Government Committee	12:00
	Finance, Ways and Means Committee	1:30

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Thursday	Session	9:00
	Education Committee	9:30
	State and Local Government Committee	12:00
	Finance, Ways and Means Committee	1:30

Rep. Ridgeway moved to adopt the proposed session and committee schedule for the Special Session, which motion prevailed.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

On motion, the following bills were introduced and passed first consideration:

***House Bill No. 1 -- Education -- Enacts "Education Improvement Act of 1992"; makes appropriation for 1991-1992 and 1992 and 1993 fiscal years. Amends TCA, Titles 8, 49. by *Purcell, *Hubbard, *Bivens, *Davidson, *Winningham, *Jones U.**

Introduced; passed first consideration.

***House Bill No. 2 -- Taxes -- Enacts "Education Funding and Tax Reform Act of 1992"; makes appropriation for 1991-1992 and 1992-1993 fiscal years. Amends TCA, Title 67, 67-2-102--121, 67-5-702, 703, 67-6-202--205, 221. by *Bragg.**

Introduced; passed first consideration, with an objection by Rep. Phillips.

***House Bill No. 3 -- Constitutional Conventions -- Authorizes constitution convention election relative to taxation and lotteries. by *DeBerry, *Clark, *Love, *Davis Ray.**

Introduced; passed first consideration.

***House Bill No. 4 -- Education, Higher -- Provides that fee waiver program for state employees and tuition discount program for children of teachers will only apply in years in which instructional portion of higher education formula is 100 percent funded. Amends TCA 8-50-114, 49-7-119. by *Bragg.**

Introduced; passed first consideration.

***House Bill No. 5 -- Education, Higher -- Limits fee waiver program for state employees and tuition discount program for children of teachers to the amount of money specifically appropriated for such purpose in Appropriations Act. Amends TCA 8-50-114, 49-7-119. by *Bragg.**

Introduced; passed first consideration.

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**ENGROSSED BILLS
JANUARY 14, 1992**

MR. SPEAKER: Your Chief Engrossing Clerk begs leave to report that we have carefully examined House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1; and find same correctly engrossed and ready for transmission to the Senate.

BETTY KAY FRANCIS,
Chief Engrossing Clerk.

**MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
JANUARY 14, 1992**

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed to return to the House, House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1; concurred in by the Senate.

CLYDE W. McCULLOUGH, JR.,
Chief Clerk.

**ENROLLED BILLS
JANUARY 14, 1992**

MR. SPEAKER: Your Chief Engrossing Clerk begs leave to report that we have carefully compared House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1; and find same correctly enrolled and ready for the signatures of the Speakers.

BETTY KAY FRANCIS,
Chief Engrossing Clerk.

**SIGNED
JANUARY 14, 1992**

The Speaker announced that he had signed the following: House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1.

BETTY KAY FRANCIS,
Chief Engrossing Clerk.

**MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE
JANUARY 14, 1992**

MR. SPEAKER: I am directed to return to the House, House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1; signed by the Speaker.

CLYDE W. McCULLOUGH, JR.,
Chief Clerk.

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REPORT OF CHIEF ENGROSSING CLERK
JANUARY 14, 1992

MR. SPEAKER: Your Chief Engrossing Clerk begs leave to report that we have transmitted to the Governor the following: House Joint Resolution(s) No(s). 1; for his action.

BETTY KAY FRANCIS,
Chief Engrossing Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken with the following results:

Present 98

Representatives present were: Allen, Anderson, Armstrong, Arriola, Bell, Bittle, Bivens, Bragg, Buck, Byrd, Callicott, Chiles, Chumney, Clark, Coffey, Cole, Collier, Copeland, Crain, Cross, Curlee, Davidson, Davis (Cocke), Davis (Gibson), Davis (Knox), DeBerry, Dixon, Duer, Ferguson, Fowlkes, Garrett, Givens, Gunnels, Haley, Halteman, Hargrove, Harrill, Hassell, Haun, Head, Herron, Hill, Hillis, Holcomb, Holt, Hubbard, Huskey, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, R. (Shelby), Jones, U. (Shelby), Joyce, Kent, Kernell, King, Kisber, Knight, Liles, Love, McAfee, McDaniel, McKee, Meyer, Moore, Naifeh, Napier, Niceley, Nuber, Odom, Peroulas Draper, Phillips, Pinion, Pruitt, Purcell, Rhinehart, Ridgeway, Rigsby, Rinks, Robinson (Davidson), Robinson (Hamilton), Robinson (Washington), Severance, Shirley, Sipes, Stamps, Tindell, Tullos, Turner (Hamilton), Turner, (Shelby), Venable, Walley, West, Whitson, Williams (Union), Windle, Winningham, Wix, Wood, Mr. Speaker Naifeh -- 98.

Rep. Purcell moved that, pursuant to House Joint Resolution No. 1, the House stand in recess until 1:00 p.m., for the Joint Convention to hear an address by the Governor at 1:15, after which the House would stand in recess until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 15, 1992.

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IN JOINT CONVENTION

The hour having arrived, set by House Joint Resolution No. 1, the Senate met with the House in Joint Convention for the purpose of hearing a speech by the Governor on the reason for calling the Extraordinary Session.

The Joint Convention was called to order by Mr. Speaker Wilder, President of the Joint Convention.

On motion of Senator Darnell, the roll call of the Senate was dispensed with.

On motion on Representative Purcell, the roll call of the House was dispensed with.

Thereupon, the Chief Clerk of the Senate read House Joint Resolution No. 1 authorizing the Joint Convention.

Sen. Darnell moved that the President appoint a Committee of six (6) members from the Senate and six (6) members from the House to notify the Governor that the Joint Convention is in session and awaiting his arrival. The motion was properly seconded and adopted.

Mr. President Wilder appointed a Select Committee composed of Senators Albright, Crowe, Dunavant, Harper, McKnight and Womack; and Representatives Rinks, Chumney, Ferguson, Tullos, McKee and Hill as the committee to escort Governor Ned McWherter to the Speaker's podium. Rep. Rinks will serve as Chair of this committee.

Without objection, the Joint Convention recessed pending the arrival of the Honorable Ned McWherter.

The Joint Convention was called to order by Mr. President Wilder.

Without objection, the roll calls of the Senate and House were dispensed with.

Rep. Rinks announced that the Honorable Ned McWherter was ready to be escorted to the podium.

President Wilder asked the Committee to Escort the Honorable Ned McWherter to please come forward.

President Wilder introduced the Honorable Ned McWherter.

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ADDRESS TO JOINT CONVENTION OF SPECIAL SESSION
Governor Ned McWherter
January 14, 1992

Governor Wilder. Speaker Naifeh. To my friends in the General Assembly. To the distinguished members of the Supreme Court. Constitutional Officers. Members of the Public Service Commission. Fellow Tennesseans.

On January 8th, 1947, in a speech to a Joint Convention of the General Assembly, Governor James McCord stood on this very spot and changed the course of Tennessee history with the following pledge: "Each child of school age in Tennessee will have the opportunity to attend a modern school, regardless of where he lives."

To provide that opportunity, Governor McCord had the courage to ask the legislature for a new and unpopular source of revenue--a two percent sales tax.

I was a senior in high school in 1947 when the legislature passed Tennessee's first sales tax. One-third of all male graduates in 1947 could expect to work on a farm. About half would get a job similar to mine in the local shoe factory.

The education system funded by Governor McCord served us relatively well in the decades of the 50s, 60s and 70s. So did our tax base. Thousands of young boys and girls went to work in the new manufacturing plants that required only a strong back and a willingness to work. The economy grew, and with it, the sales tax base to fund our state services.

By the 1980s, things had begun to change quickly. The federal government went on a spending spree like a drunken sailor. The annual federal deficit rose from \$45 billion in 1980 to more than \$300 billion in 1990. As the federal government was forced to borrow \$700,000 a minute to finance its debt, Washington greatly reduced the revenue sharing to states for mandated programs such as clean water and medicaid.

Changes in the federal budget were accompanied by equally important changes in the Tennessee economy. The rapid growth of manufacturing in the 50s and 60s was replaced by even faster growth of service industries. Most of these services--lawyers, architects, stock brokers--were not subject to the sales tax.

A sales tax base that had served us reasonably well for four decades was shrinking at a time when demands for more prisons and more health care were increasing faster than anyone could have predicted.

By the 1980s, dramatic changes were also occurring in the competition for jobs. As we sought new manufacturing plants, we found that our main competition was no longer Kentucky or Alabama, but countries like Taiwan and Germany. Tennessee was still experiencing success in recruiting new industry. But from New York

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to Tokyo, companies were now investing hundreds of millions of dollars for plants that would sometimes employ only 200 people.

Every aspect of manufacturing, from the office to the assembly line to the warehouse, had become a process of technology. We didn't have time to complain or reminisce about the old days. Low-skill manufacturing jobs were leaving by the thousands. The days of attracting more were long gone.

It is necessary to reflect upon these changes to understand why last February I came to the House chamber and stood in the same spot as Governor McCord. Just as he did nearly a half century ago, I called upon Tennesseans for fundamental changes in our schools, and fundamental changes in our tax structure.

My message that day to the legislature and to the people of Tennessee is the same as my message today. If we hope to pass our standard of living to our children, we must provide every boy and girl the opportunity for an adequate basic education, regardless of where he or she lives.

And to provide that opportunity, we should no longer rely on a tax system designed in the 1940s.

The great majority of Tennesseans realize that we need to upgrade our schools in order to compete. What they are asking is a fair question: exactly what will I get for my money? Or, put differently, how will I know my money won't go for just more of the same?

I'm not an educator. I'll leave the philosophy to the educators. Let me tell you in Ned McWherter's language what I think Tennesseans will demand from any new education program.

1. Every school system should have enough resources for an adequate basic education.

It doesn't mean more football bleachers. It doesn't mean raises for teachers. And it won't pay for a single new administrative position.

It means that classes will be smaller so the teacher can teach, and that kids will have up-to-date textbooks and computers so they can learn.

2. Communities should run their schools without interference from Nashville.

We already have repealed 3,700 state rules and regulations. I want us to stop worrying about the process, and start emphasizing the product.

3. We must raise our academic standards.

We need more required courses in math, science and social

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studies. And we must require every student to pass a much tougher test for high school graduation.

4. Tennessee should have the toughest accountability standards in the country.

I want school systems evaluated each year--classroom by classroom. I want incentives for systems that improve. And in systems that don't measure up, I want to see the superintendent and school boards replaced.

This is pretty blunt talk. But it's the only way I know to express what I think Tennesseans want and deserve from their schools.

Last May both the House and Senate passed the Administration's education plan in a form that included each of these four items. Since then, two events have occurred that should have an important effect on your deliberations.

First, the Education Conference Committee, with the leadership of Senator Albright and Representative Davidson, has done an outstanding job in helping mold a consensus plan for education. The work of this committee makes up about 99 percent of my education proposal for the Special Session.

Second, the Chancery Court has ruled that the present funding of our schools is unconstitutional. On this point, I would like to leave no misunderstanding.

Every day of this Administration I have been forced to live with the consequences of the Courts taking over our prisons in 1982. It has taken us ten years and hundreds of millions of dollars to correct the mistakes made in the past.

Lawyers can and will debate the Constitution. But for 200 years it has been the proper role of the Executive and Legislative branches of government to make policy for our schools. If we do not act to provide an adequate basic education for every Tennessee child, the responsibility will rest with each of us if the courts step in and take away control of our schools.

Most Tennesseans know we need a 21st Century School System. My challenge is to convince them that we can't continue to fund education with an outdated tax structure.

Last February I proposed to reform Tennessee's tax structure with substantial reductions in the sales tax and a tax on income. I expected to get beat over the head. And I did.

Some people don't even want to discuss an income tax. They are absolutely opposed to a tax on income and always will be. I accept that.

Others have told me that our biggest problem was a proposal that was too complicated. If many of the legislators in this room could

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not explain my tax reform proposal in the coffee shop or at the dining room table, then I'm at fault.

But after examining every alternative, I am still convinced that joining 42 states with a tax on income is the best way to establish a sound, conservative revenue base for Tennessee's future. I still believe sales taxes and property taxes are too high, and have contributed to the economic recession in Tennessee.

To fund education, I am presenting to the legislature a simple proposal that every man and woman in Tennessee can easily understand. The proposal would reduce the sales tax by a half cent.

It would lower property taxes for low-income senior citizens. It would cut in half the present tax on dividends and interest. And it would provide cities and counties with the ability to lower property and wheel taxes.

The tax reduction package would total more than \$400 million. To balance these tax reductions, and to keep the courts out of our schools, I have recommended a three percent tax on adjusted gross income, with a \$4,000 exemption for each person in the household.

Two percent would be earmarked for education. One percent would go to reduce sales and property taxes.

I have asked only for the revenues we need to fund our schools. And I have insisted only that every dollar raised in the name of education be earmarked in an Education Trust Fund.

I want to close by saying I knew these proposals would be unpopular with many Tennesseans. The easy course would be to limp along, raise the sales tax again, and put off the hard decisions for the next governor.

But I wasn't elected to be popular. I was elected to try as best I can to solve problems.

Tennesseans know what is at stake for our children. They also know it's time for elected officials to put partisanship aside, quit arguing, and do what needs to be done for our future.

The message was given to me politely, but firmly, by Corrie Cron, a student at Hume-Fogg High School in Nashville. "Governor McWherter," she said, "I agree with everything you're trying to do for our schools."

"But we don't have enough textbooks in my chemistry class to go around. And we spend a third of every French class copying from the blackboard because we have no copying paper."

Mr. Governor, all the talk is great. But it seems to me it's time to stop talking and do something for education."

I called the legislature into Special Session because I agree

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with Corrie. For six or seven weeks we should put aside all the other issues that compete for our attention.

I will do everything within my power as Governor to make the case for education and tax reform. I will be prepared to give serious consideration to any responsible alternative proposal from the General Assembly.

The decision is difficult--perhaps more difficult than any you will ever make. If you need someone to help take the heat, give it to me. If you need someone to carry the blame, my shoulders are broad.

But ladies and gentlemen, for the sake of Corrie Cron, and for the future of 800,000 Tennessee children, I ask you to give six weeks of your life to one issue.

For six weeks we should put aside personal ambition.

For six weeks it should be possible to put aside partisanship.

For six weeks we should dedicate ourselves to finding the truth between what is popular and what is right.

Very simply, it is time to put education first in Tennessee.

Thank you very much.

Mr. President Wilder relinquished the gavel to Mr. Speaker Naifeh as President of the Joint Convention.

The purpose for which the Joint Convention was assembled having been accomplished, Mr. President Naifeh declared the Joint Convention dissolved.